DISNEY COMICS

DONALD DUCK

ISSUE 11

SUPER DUCK

"THE UNIVERSE."

"A MYSTERY TO EVERY LIVING BEING."

"SCIENCE TRIES TO STUDY IT, BUT IT CONTAINS ALL POSSIBLE SCIENCES WITHIN ITSELF."

"HISTORY WANTS TO GIVE IT TIME, BUT IT POS-SESSES ALL TIMES, FUTURE AND PAST."

"SO, TO TRY TO UN-DERSTAND THE UNI-VERSE, INSTEAD OF MEASURING IT, IT MUST BE IMAGINED..."

"THE UNIVERSE HAS INNUMERABLE FORMS, AND SO IT IS ALSO THIS."

"A CYLINDER WITH A CROSS-SECTION OF INCALCULABLE RADIUS..."

"... VIRTUALLY INFINITE AND WITH INFINITE SHELVES..."

"... WHICH CONTAIN *INFINITE CELLS*..."

"... AND JUST AS MANY UNITS OF KNOWLEDGE."

THE ERACOLATOR

WALT DISNEY

"*EVERYTHING* IS KEPT HERE. ALL SCIENCE, ALL POETRY, ALL THE HISTORY OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS."

"THIS UNIT OF KNOWLEDGE HERE CONTAINS EVERY-THING ABOUT THE *GREAT EMPIRE* THAT INTERESTS US."

"VICTORIES AND DEFEATS, FAMED SAYINGS AND HE-ROIC ACTS. THE RISE AND THE FALL."

"YES. THE EMPIRE WAS LOST ALONG THE WAY. IF YOU'RE SEEKING CULPRITS, THIS IS NOT THE PLACE TO LOOK..."

"... BUT IF YOU WANT A FACE, THEN THIS IS WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE END..."

"... OF *EVRON!*"

THE BEGINNING OF THE END!

EN!

EN! OF COURSE! YOU'RE THE BEST, ONE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M HELPING YOU FINISH YOUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE!

RELAX, YOU *OLD NUT!* THERE'S NO DANGER LOOMING TONIGHT!

BUT YOU SHOULD BE ON THE *ALERT* ANYWAY!

PUZZLES FOR DUCKS

ACTUALLY, AT THIS HOUR, I SHOULD BE *SLEEPING!*

I'M SORRY, BUT AS GUARDIAN OF THE GALAXY, YOU HAVE VERY SPECIFIC DUTIES!

WHATEVER! I JUST HOPE MY NEPHEWS DON'T REALIZE I'M GONE!

DON'T WORRY! THE *DUMMY* IN YOUR PLACE IS BLISSFULLY SNORING AWAY!

SNORE...

I DON'T SNORE LIKE THAT!

YOU'RE RIGHT! USUALLY YOU WAKE UP THE NEIGHBORS! I HAD TO *LOWER* THE VOLUME!

ALARM! ALARM! ALIEN INTRUSION! SECTOR A16! QUADRANT 7621!

HEAR THAT? YOU HAVE ONE MINUTE TO PUT ON YOUR COSTUME AND GO BE A HERO!

AT LEAST, LET ME FINISH MY *PUZZLE* FIRST!

NEGATIVE! REMEMBER TO GET THE EXTRANSFORMER SHIELD BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

HASTE MAKES WASTE AND GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO WAIT!

UMM... WHERE DID YOU LEARN THOSE OLD SAYINGS?

TSK! I'M A *CULTURED* DUCK! I *READ*, SOMETIMES!

PUZZLES FOR DUCKS

IN FACT, I READ THEM IN *PROVERBS AND TRIVIA* ON PAGE SIX!

IT'S MY FAVORITE COLUMN IN PUZZLES FOR DUCKS!

HELP!

HELP! HELP!

SHUT UP AND GET INSIDE, EARTHLING!

MARKET open 24H

WHY WOULD A PATROL OF EVRON SOLDIERS BE INVADING... A *MINI-MARKET?*

MAYBE THEY RAN OUT OF SNACKS! LET'S GET ON WITH IT!

MARKET open 24H

CRAAAASH

RIGHT! NOW THE SHOP REALLY IS OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY!

DESTROY HIM!

SOCK

UGH!

AND NOW...

NO! NO *PUN-CHES*... NO!

MONO PIZZA

OKAY! YOU CAN'T SAY I'M NOT A NICE GUY!

TUNK

HMM! WHERE DID THE THIRD EVRON GO?

HELP!

HELP!

I CAN HEAR YOU, BUDDY! I'M COMING!

WAIT! DID IT NOT ENTER YOUR MIND THAT THIS MIGHT BE A *TRAP?*

OH, COME ON! EVRONS DO PLENTY OF *STUPID* THINGS!

SURE, BUT WHY PICK ON A STORE THAT'S OPEN AT NIGHT?

MAYBE BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY ONE IN THE AREA WITH CUSTOMERS TO *COOLFLA-MATE!*

THERE YOU ARE!

THE POINT IS, IN THIS NEIGH-BORHOOD DIDN'T USE TO HAVE ANY...

GULP!

SHAAAIZZ

ARGH!

BZAAARP

YOU AND YOUR BAB-BLING, ONE! I WAS ALMOST TOAST THERE!

SPECIAL ØFFER $4.99

HELP! HELP!

YES, YES! CALM DOWN! CAN'T YOU SAY ANY-THING...

... ELSE?

HELP! HELP!

UMM... WHAT WERE YOU SAYING ABOUT A TRAP?

KRAAAM

WAAAM

T-CLANK

CLUNCK

CLUNCK

WOOOSSSHHH

WOOOSSSHH

AS I WAS SAYING, THIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD...

... NEVER HAD A *MINI-MARKET!* I'VE GOT THE PICTURE, ONE!

"*NOW* I'VE REALLY GOT THE PICTURE!"

SPECIAL *RETRIEVAL* UNIT APPROACHING! EVERYONE TO THEIR PLACES!

SUPERDUCK IS HERE, TECHNARCH ZOSTER!

GOOD, SOLDIER! VERY GOOD!

IF I MAY... HE FELL LIKE A BLASTARP!

BLIRP

I RECOMMEND YOU DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE HIM! STAY CLOSE TO ME AND KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!

OPEN!

T-CLUNCK

SPECIAL OFFER

VRRRRR

IF I MAY... YOU MADE A HORSE LAUGH!

?

ME? AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHAT KIND OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ARE YOU?

THE KIND THAT THINKS RATIONALLY BEFORE INTERVENING!

WHEN YOU PICKED ME AS A *GUARDIAN*, YOU KNEW MY PERSONALITY!

WHEN I PICKED YOU, MY BATTERIES WERE PROBABLY *FLAT!*

ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD HAVE REALIZED RIGHT AWAY THAT THE STORE WAS *FAKE!*

HOW? SHOULD I HAVE CHECKED IF THE *FAKE* PACKAGES HAD *REAL* FOOD INSIDE?

EARTHLINGS!

NO! YOU JUST HAD TO LOOK AT THE *PRICES!* READ HERE! THINGS FROM THE OTHER WORLD!

FINE, NEXT TIME I'LL MAKE SURE TO SCAN EVERY SINGLE *BARCODE!*

EXCUSE ME, I...

GOTCHA!

GULP!

SO, I WAS THE ONE WHO WASN'T SUPPOSED TO UNDERESTIMATE HIM, HUH?

GRRR! I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP!

FINE! NAIVETY FOR NAIVETY! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

FOR NOW, I'LL BE HAPPY IF YOU MAKE YOUR SOLDIERS MOVE BACK!

DID YOU HEAR THAT? MOVE BACK!

GOOD! NOW, TELL ME WHY YOU BROUGHT ME HERE!

YOU KNOW I WANT SOMETHING FROM YOU? THEN, YOU'RE NOT SO SLOW AFTER ALL!

IF THEY'D WANTED TO ELIMINATE YOU, THEY WOULD HAVE DONE IT DURING THE FLIGHT!

I WORKED THAT OUT TOO, WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

I THOUGHT WE HAD STOPPED *PRETENDING* TO ARGUE!

WHO WAS PRETENDING?

ERM... CAN I ANSWER THE QUESTION?

COFF COFF

YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME, EARTHLING, BUT YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE I NEED YOUR HELP!

BUITZZZ

SHAAAAAAA

HERE HE IS!

COUNCILOR GORTHAN!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?

WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY! HE SEEMS TO BE IN A STATE OF ***SUSPENDED ANIMATION!***

HIS MIND IS LOST IN A KIND OF... ***DREAM*** OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT GORTHAN LOVED RECITING THE POETRY OF ***ZARTAS!*** THE POET! THE BEACON!

JUST TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA, IT WAS ZARTAS WHO COINED THE SAYING ***"POWER AND MIGHT"!***

A REAL ARTIST!

THE COUNCILOR EVEN HAD SOME ***MEMENTOES*** THAT BELONGED TO THE ANCIENT COM-MANDER!

BZZZZ

ONE OF THESE IS THE CRUDE, BUT FASCINATING, ***SYMBIOTIC ERACOLA-TOR!***

BUZZZZ

THEY SAY THAT ERACOLATORS WERE ONCE ESSENTIAL FOR ALL HIGH-CASTE EVRONS!

"BUILT FROM ALIEN MATERIALS USING MYSTERIOUS PROCESSES..."

"... THEY WERE THE PLACES IN WHICH CERTAIN... *THOUGHTS* WERE STORED!"

"POETRY, DREAMS, PHILOSOPHICAL REFLECTIONS, ALL THE INTERESTS THAT WE WOULD CALL *CULTURAL*..."

... AND WHICH CAN, IN NO WAY, INTERFERE WITH THE *MATERIAL* ONES!

I SEE! NO DISTRACTIONS! DESTRUCTION COMES BEFORE EVERYTHING!

EXACTLY! NOW, AT GORTHAN'S REQUEST AND AFTER MANY ATTEMPTS...

... I MANAGED TO *RESTART* ZARTAS'S ERACOLATOR!

"HOPING TO EXPERIENCE THE *THOUGHTS* OF HIS HERO, GORTHAN CHOSE TO IGNORE MY WARNINGS, AND..."

"... HE MENTALLY *CONNECTED* HIMSELF TO THIS OBJECT, IMMEDIATELY LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS!"

AS A RESULT, THE ERACOLATOR IS OUT OF CONTROL AND NOW IT'S ABOUT TO *EXPLODE!*

THE ENERGY COMPACTED IN THAT TINY BOX IS ENOUGH TO CREATE A *BLACK HOLE...*

... WHICH COULD WIPE OUT NOT ONLY THE EVRON FLEET, BUT ALSO *YOUR PLANET!*

ONE! TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE!

ACTUALLY, I'M AFRAID HE'S RIGHT! I'M DETECTING AN *INCREDIBLE ENERGY ANOMALY!*

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? DISCONNECT THE COUNCILOR FROM THAT *THING* AND THEN LAUNCH IT INTO SPACE!

SUCH AN ACTION WOULD DETONATE IT!

THE LINK BETWEEN THE ERACOLATOR AND ITS HOST IS *UNBREAKABLE!* ONLY GORTHAN CAN STOP IT!

SLAP SLAP

HE JUST HAS TO *WAKE UP* AND COME OUT OF THIS TRANCE!

HEAR THAT, BUDDY? WAKE UP! THE SUN IS SHINING IN THE WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM!

NO! ALL *EXTERNAL* STIMULI ARE USELESS! WE HAVE TO ACT *INTERNALLY!*

AND HERE'S WHERE *YOU* COME INTO PLAY!

TWWIIINNN

A DREAM OR SOME OTHER KIND OF FANTASY IS KEEPING GORTHAN LINKED TO THE ERACO-LATOR!

SIGH! TELL ME AGAIN WHY I AGREED TO PUT MY HEAD IN HERE?

YOU WILL TRY TO *TUNE IN* TO THIS THOUGHT, CONNECTING YOURSELF TO THE GENERAL'S MIND!

YOU STILL HAVEN'T ANSWERED ONE QUESTION! *WHY* ME, EXACTLY?

SIMPLE! BY ITS NATURE, THE ERACOLATOR CAN ONLY SUPPORT ONE EVRON AT A TIME!

SO IT'S ONLY POSSIBLE TO ADD IN THE MIND OF A BEING FROM ANOTHER RACE...

... AND WHAT BETTER *GUINEA PIG* THAN YOUR WORST ENEMY?

I UNDERSTAND, BUT DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY! ONE CAN DI-SINTEGRATE YOU JUST AS WELL WITHOUT MY HELP!

ERM! BY THE WAY...

ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS? IT'S VERY RISKY!

I KNOW, BUT ZOSTER HAS PROMISED TO LET ME GO, IF EVERYTHING WORKS OUT!

AND YOU BELIEVE HIM?

NO! BUT I DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE! YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAID THE EARTH WAS REALLY IN *DANGER!*

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, I CHOSE WELL WHEN I PICKED YOU AS A *HERO!*

THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU THOUGHT WHEN WE WERE ARGUING JUST NOW!

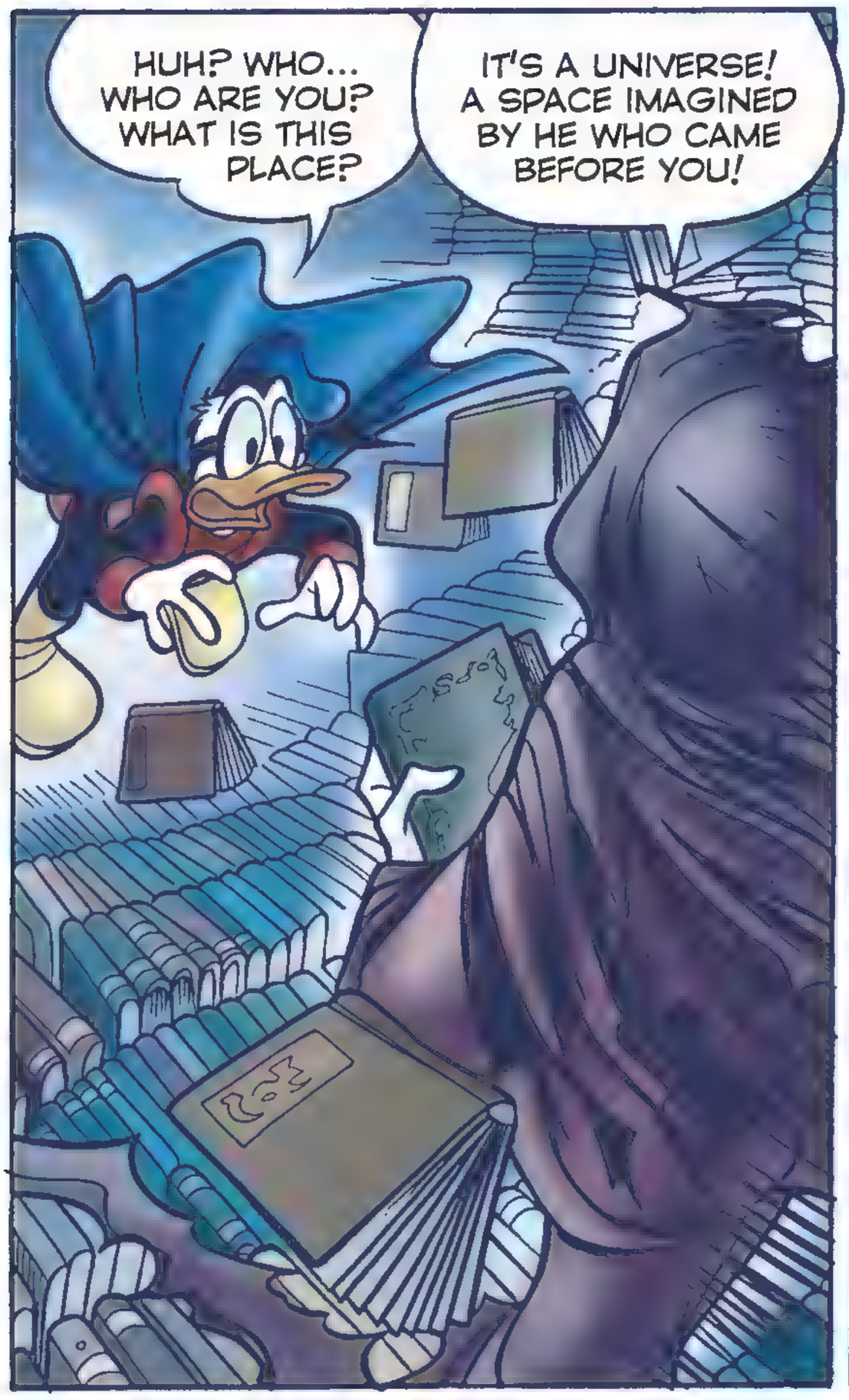
SO, I'M READY! CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT TO EXPECT?

ACTUALLY, I DON'T KNOW! WHAT IS THERE INSIDE THE *MIND* OF ANOTHER CREATURE?

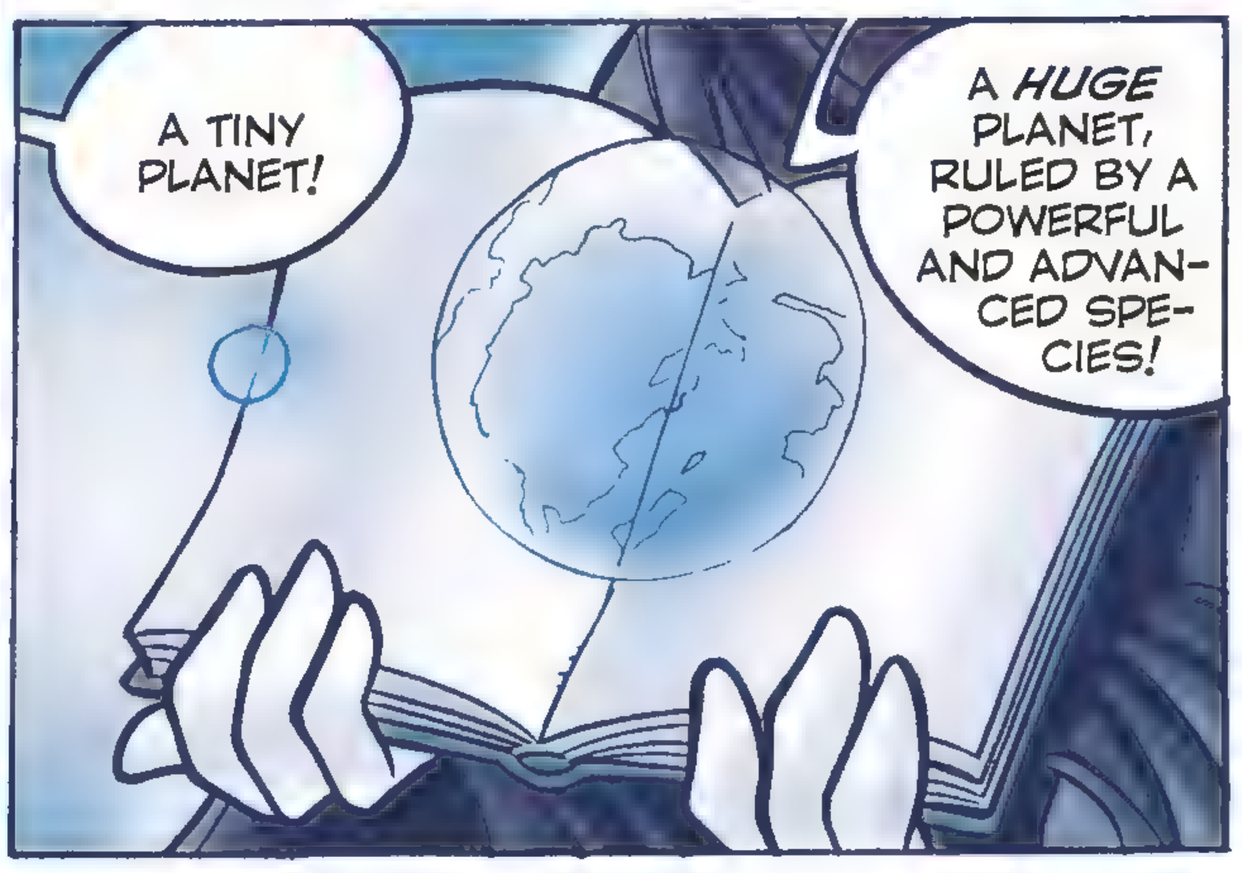
YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND OUT! HAVE A *GOOD JOURNEY...*

... GUARDIAN OF THE GALAXY!

WELCOME!


HUH? WHO... WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
IT'S A UNIVERSE! A SPACE IMAGINED BY HE WHO CAME BEFORE YOU!

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT GORTHAN, RIGHT?
LOOK! WHAT DO YOU SEE?


A TINY PLANET!
A *HUGE* PLANET, RULED BY A POWERFUL AND ADVANCED SPECIES!

EVRONS!

THEY ARE SURROUNDING A FORTRESS! AN ANCIENT PLACE, CALLED *MINITH-HORN!*

THE EVRON COMMANDER, *ZARTAS,* IS WAITING BY HIS TENT!

ZARTAS?

HE'S WAITING FOR THE SURRENDER OF THE *MINIATHS!* A SMALL PEOPLE, TENACIOUS AND PROUD!

THAT'S *NOT* ZARTAS! IT'S *GORTHAN!* I'M SURE IT IS!

I HAVE TO TALK TO HIM! THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE FOR!

FINE, BUT TO DO IT YOU HAVE TO ENTER INTO THIS KNOWLEDGE UNIT!

ARE YOU READY TO CROSS THE *LIMITS OF MEMORY?*

"ARE YOU READY TO GO BEYOND THIS INFINITESIMAL, IMMENSE THRESHOLD?"

"BEYOND THIS DAZZLING LIGHT?"

"INTO ANOTHER SPACE! ANOTHER TIME!"

"ANOTHER *WORLD*..."

I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

I'M FLYING ABOVE AN UNKNOWN PLANET!

OH, BUT YOU DO KNOW IT! I WAS JUST TELLING YOU ABOUT IT, REMEMBER? LOOK DOWN THERE!

THE REBELS HAVE BARRICADED THEMSELVES INSIDE THE SPLENDID FORTRESS OF *MINITHORN!*

ITS HISTORIC WALLS ARE NOW CRUMBLING! IT WILL BE EASY FOR ZARTAS TO KNOCK THEM DOWN!

BUT... BUT ALL THIS IS JUST A *DREAM,* RIGHT?

YOU'RE HERE NOW! IT'S NO LONGER THE TIME FOR ANSWERS, AND AS FOR FUTURE QUESTIONS...

"... YOU'LL HAVE TO ANSWER THEM YOURSELF!"

WAIT! DON'T GO! DON'T...

?

EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?

I... I DON'T KNOW.

YOU MUST BE DROWSY, MY LORD! YOU HAVEN'T SLEPT FOR DAYS!

L-LORD?

OF COURSE! YOU ARE *HOGARN!* LEADER OF THE MINIATHS! COMMANDER AND HERO!

AH! UMM... GOOD TO KNOW!

YOU'RE ACTING VERY STRANGELY! IS *YOUR INJURY* GIVING YOU A FEVER?

I... I THINK THAT'S WHAT IT IS!

HMM! I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT I'M SOME-HOW *IN THE BODY* OF THIS HOGARN!

IN FACT, IF I LOOK AT MYSELF, I LOOK THE SAME...

... BUT WHEN I LOOK IN THE MIRROR MY APPEARANCE *CHANGES!*

AND CLEARLY I ALSO LOOK *DIFFERENT* TO EVERYONE ELSE!

PROBABLY GORTHAN HAS ALSO TAKEN ON THE APPEARANCE OF SOMEONE ELSE...

"... THE APPEARANCE OF ZARTAS!"

SO! NO SIGN OF SURRENDER FROM MINITH-HORN?

NO, SIR! THE MINIATHS WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERY LAST MINUTE OF OUR ULTIMATUM!

VERY WELL, THEN!

IF THOSE REBELS DON'T SURRENDER BY DAWN TOMORROW, WE'LL ENTER BY FORCE...

... AND THEN THEY'LL SEE THAT ZARTAS HAS NO MERCY!

THEY'RE REALLY SMART, THESE *MI-NIATHS!*

THEY KNOW THE END IS NEAR, BUT THEY'RE DISTRACTING THEIR LITTLE ONES AS BEST THEY CAN!

PROUD AND STUBBORN! WARM AND FULL OF FEELING! THEY REMIND ME OF EARTH'S INHA-BITANTS!

HOGARN!

YES? WHO'S CALLI... *GULP!*

LYLA?

WHO IS THIS LYLA? MY NAME IS *JANIRA!*

UMM... SORRY! THE THING IS, YOU REMIND ME OF SO-MEONE!

I'D LIKE TO SEE WHO! I'M *YOUR WIFE!*

GASP!

UMM... FINALLY YOU'RE BACK, MY DEAR! WERE YOU AT THE HAIRDRES-SER'S?

DON'T TRY TO BE FUNNY! LOOK AT THIS MAP!

WITH SOME OTHER WARRIORS, I INVESTIGATED THE CAVERNS UNDERNEATH MINITH-HORN!

THE ANCIENT WRITINGS WERE TELLING THE TRUTH! THERE IS A ENTRANCE THAT LEADS TO THE *ENDLESS TUNNELS!*

MILLIONS OF PASSAGES WINDING UNDER THE WHO-LE PLANET! *SALVATION,* FOR ALL OF US!

EXCELLENT! YOU TAKE... THAT IS... WE'LL TAKE WEAPONS AND SUPPLIES AND GO IMMEDIATELY!

UNFORTUNATELY THE ENTRANCE TO THE TUNNELS IS *BLOCKED!*

THE SOLDIERS ARE TRYING TO CLEAR IT IN TIME, BUT IT'LL TAKE HOURS...

... AND THE *LONG NIGHT OF FIRE* IS ALMOST OVER!

WE HAVE TO SLOW DOWN THE EVRON ADVANCE, BUT HOW?

IF ONLY I COULD TALK TO GOR-THAN...

GORTHAN?

UMM... I MEAN, *ZAR-TAS!*

OH, NO! YOU DON'T WANT TO USE THE *ANCIENT CODE*, DO YOU?

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A *HERO*, BUT WHAT WOULD BE THE COST OF YOUR *SACRIFICE?*

HUH? SACRIFICE? WAIT A MOMENT...

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF I WAS THE LEADER I TOO WOULD *SACRIFICE* MYSELF FOR MY PEOPLE!

HEY! LET'S NOT BE SO DRAMATIC! I JUST SAID THAT...

YOU WANT TO *FACE* ZARTAS! IT'S YOUR RIGHT, ACCORDING TO THE ANCIENT STELLAR CODE!

BY DUELING WITH HIM, YOU WOULD KEEP HIS WHOLE ARMY OCCUPIED...

... AND WE COULD CLEAR THE ENTRANCEWAY AND ESCAPE TO *SAFETY!*

HMM... IT'S NOT SUCH A BAD IDEA!

IN FACT, IT'S THE *ONLY CHANCE* I HAVE TO GET CLOSE TO GORTHAN AND GIVE HIM HIS *WAKE-UP CALL!*

I HAVE DECIDED, JANIRA! DON'T TRY TO STOP ME! I MUST GO!

SGRAT SGRAT

AS YOU WISH! I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO *SLAP YOU* OR *KISS YOU!*

UMM... CAN I CHOOSE FOR YOU?

I'LL GO FOR THE KISS!

SNAP

IS THAT HOW YOU KISS AROUND HERE?

I'M JUST CALLING YOUR *SONS!* EACH ONE WILL GIVE YOU A KISS!

SONS? I HAVE CHILDREN? HOW MANY?

SO IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY! THE INJURIES HAVE CLOUDED YOUR *MEMORY!*

YOU HAVE *TWELVE* SONS, AND THEY'RE ALL GREAT WARRIORS!

SO? WHAT DO YOU SAY TO DADDY?

GOODBYE!

T-HOOOUUU T-HOOU

HEAR YE, HEAR YE! HOGARN, LORD OF THE MINIATHS, SENDS A CHALLENGE ACCORDING TO THE RULES OF THE *ANCIENT CODE!*

HEAR YE, HEAR YE! ZARTAS, GENERAL OF THE EVRONS, ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE ACCORDING TO RULES OF THE ANCIENT CODE!

T-HOOOUUUU
T-HOOOUUU

FINALLY, WE MEET!

RIGHT! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I'VE BEEN THROUGH TO GET HERE!

OPEN YOUR EYES, BUDDY! THIS DREAM HAS TAKEN A *TURN FOR THE WORSE!*

WILLNNN

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT, BUT IT'S MY TURN TO CHOOSE THE WEAPONS!

LET'S GO, GORTHAN...

GORTHAN? MY NAME IS *ZARTAS!*

SO IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY... THE INJURIES HAVE FOGGED YOUR MIND!

GRUNT! LOOK WHO'S TALKING! AND ANYWAY I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHO'S BEEN SPREADING THESE RU-MORS!

LISTEN! IT'S CLEAR THAT YOU *BELIEVE* YOU'RE ZARTAS! THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T *WAKE UP!*

SILENCE!

STUD

GULP!

I *AM* ZARTAS! GENERAL OF THE EVRONS! COUNSELOR TO THE EMPEROR!

SHAAATRRR

... POET!

TWANG

GREAT STRATEGIST! INVINCIBLE WARRIOR! SCIENTIST! PHILOSOPHER AND FINALLY...

TCUD

SKRAIZZ

WHILE YOU... WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, DOUBTING MY AUTHORITY?

UMM... CERTAINLY NOT HOGARN! I'M JUST A LITTLE SOMEONE CALLED...

... SUPER-DUCK!

GRRRAAARRR!

TWAANG

SKRATZ

HE... HE *REACTED* AS SOON AS HE HEARD MY NAME! SO ALL IS NOT LOST!

IF YOU'RE REALLY ZARTAS, THEN RECITE ONE OF YOUR EPIC SAYINGS...

I'LL BE HAPPY TO, MINIATH! LISTEN TO THE SOUND OF ***MY WORDS*** AS WE FIGHT!

POWER AND MIGHT...

CLANG

... AND FEAR FOR-EVER...

SKRAAATZ

CLANNNG

... AND OUR *ONLY* ENDEAVOR!

UMM... HE WHO FIGHTS AND RUNS AWAY, MAY LIVE TO FIGHT ANO-THER DAY!

?

... THIS IS OUR RIGHT...

ARE YOU MOCKING MY WORDS, YOU SILLY LITTLE REBEL?

I JUST WANT TO SHOW THAT IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO SPEAK WISELY!

GRRR! THE WARRIOR THAT DREAMS OF LAURELS, WINS NO WORLDS!

SKRAAAATZ

LIKE SAYING THAT THE EARLY BIRD, GETS THE WORM!

IF A SLAVE RAISES HIS HEAD, THEN IT'S TIME TO MAKE HIM LOWER IT!

WHAT GOES AROUND, COMES AROUND!

THERE'S NO STORM AS GREAT AS THE RAGE OF EVRON!

HE, HE, HE!

PFFFT!

GULP! PRIDE COMES BEFORE A FALL!

YOU'RE RIDICULING A *HERO* IN FRONT OF HIS OWN SOLDIERS!

NO ONE...

... MAKES FUN...

TWIIIIIIIN!

... OF GORTHAN!

GULP!

GULP!

E... EXACTLY!

?

CLANG

WHO... WHO...

... ACTUALLY...

... AM I?

UHNNN!

WELCOME BACK, COUNCILOR!

ZOSTER! YES! NOW I REMEMBER!

MY *BODY!* IS THIS REAL LIFE, THEN?

UMM... SO IT SEEMS!

THE MOMENT YOU REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS, THE ENERGY PARAMETERS OF THE ERACOLATOR...

... RETURNED TO *NORMAL LEVELS!* THE DANGER OF EX-PLOSION HAS BEEN AVERTED!

OH!

SUPER-DUCK?

YOU CONNECTED HIM TO THE ERACOLATOR?

SHAAAA

HE WAS THE *ONLY ONE* ABLE TO WAKE YOU! BUT WE DO NOT NEED HIM ANY MORE!

ZOSTER! STAY AWAY FROM HIM OR ELSE...

I'M NOT AFRAID OF A HOLOGRAM! GET HIM!

THAT WASN'T THE DEAL!

AS THE GREAT ZARTAS SAID... NEVER MAKE A DEAL WITH AN EVRON...

... OOOF!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU KNOW ABOUT ZARTAS? HIS POEMS? HIS EPIC SAYINGS?

...

I FOUGHT WITH HIS HANDS! I SAW WITH HIS EYES! I SPOKE *THROUGH HIS MOUTH!*

NNNGH!

ONCE, THE EVRONS WERE A NOBLE RACE WHO FOLLOWED ANCIENT STELLAR CODES!

NOW, IT'S NO LONGER SO! THAT'S THE REAL REASON FOR THE *DECLINE* OF THE EMPIRE!

TO GET TO KNOW THE GREAT ZARTAS TAKES MORE THAN JUST EMPTILY REPEATING HIS VERSES!

IT'S OUR DUTY TO TRY TO INTERPRET THE *PHILOSOPHY* AND THE ACTIONS!

LET HIM GO!

WH-WHAT?!

IT'S TIME FOR THE ANCIENT CODES TO BE DUSTED OFF, MY DEAR ZOSTER...

USUALLY, I'M THE ONE WHO'S IN DEBT!

... AND FOR *DEBTS* TO BE REPAID!

VANISH FROM MY SIGHT, EARTH-LING! YOUR *END* HAS ONLY BEEN POSTPONED!

GOOD TO KNOW...

... BUT, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET RID OF ME SO EASILY!

WHAT? DID THAT *NAP* GO TO YOUR HEAD?

I JUST WANT TO UNDERSTAND! WHAT WE EXPERIENCED WAS NOT A DREAM!

NO! WE TOOK A SORT OF JOURNEY THROUGH TIME! INTO THE HISTORY OF THE EMPIRE!

"STILL TODAY THEY TALK OF THE DUEL BETWEEN HORGAN AND ZARTAS, AT THE FOOT OF MINITH-HORN!"

"ZARTAS HAD THE ADVANTAGE, BUT HE *INEXPLICABLY* DECIDED TO SPARE HIS OPPONENT!"

"THE EVRON TROOPS ENTERED THE FORTRESS, BUT..."

"... THEY FOUND THAT THE MINIATHS HAD ESCAPED THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS!"

"HOGARN WAS IMPRISONED, BUT STILL BECAME A SYMBOL OF REVENGE FOR THE REBELS..."

... WHILE HIS TWELVE SONS ALL BECAME *GREAT COMMANDERS!*

A REAL THORN IN EVRON'S SIDE!

YOU KNOW, I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THAT GORTHAN LET YOU GO!

ME NEITHER, ONE! HE'S CERTAINLY NOT KNOWN FOR HIS MERCY!

MAYBE HE THINKS THAT THE EVRONS STILL HOLD IN CHECK A SMALL STRONG-HOLD...

THE EARTH!

... AND THAT ONCE AGAIN, THE BESIEGED, ARE LED BY A *SMALL BUT GREAT HERO!*

HOW PRESUMP-TUOUS!

IN ANY CASE, THERE ARE STILL MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS!

YOU'RE RIGHT! THE ERACOLATOR IS REALLY A *STRANGE* DEVICE!

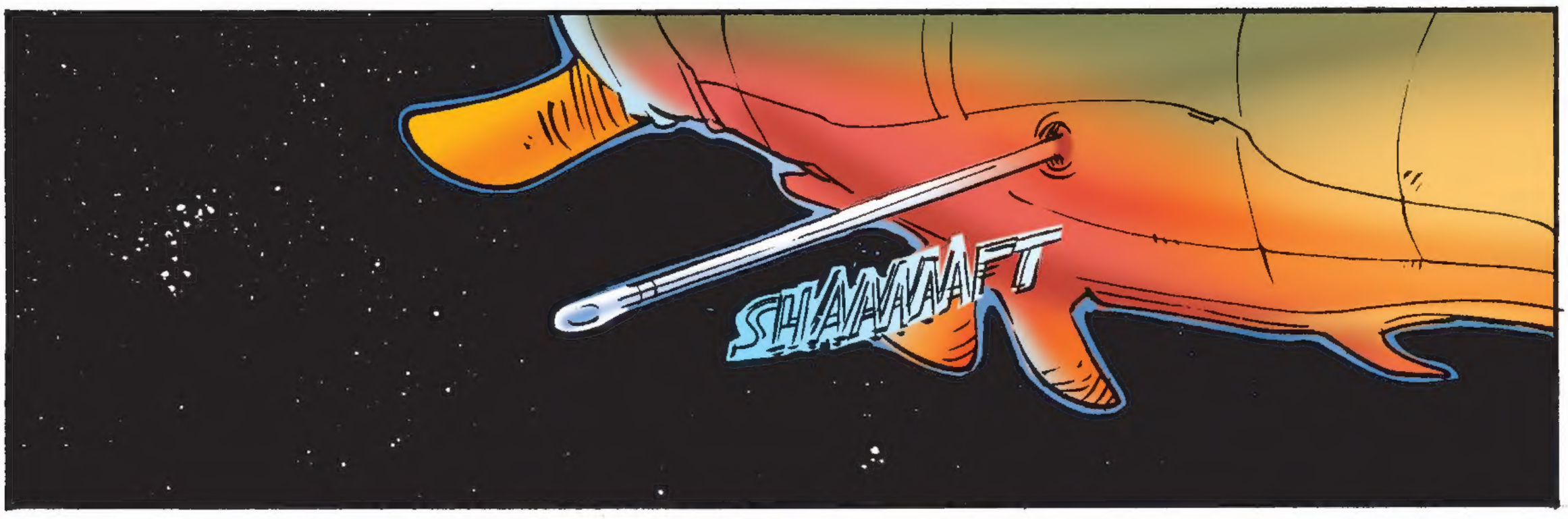
WHO WAS THAT HOOD-ED FIGURE WHO LED ME TO GORTHAN? BUT MOST OF ALL...

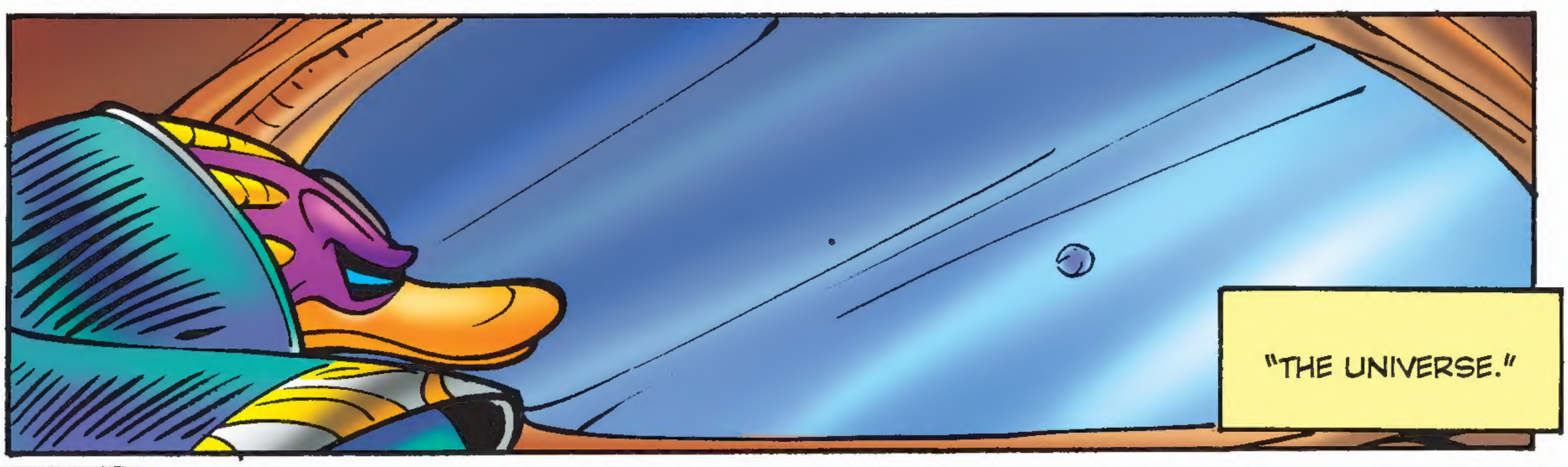
"... HOW CAN A SMALL BOX CON-TAIN A WHOLE UNI-VERSE?"

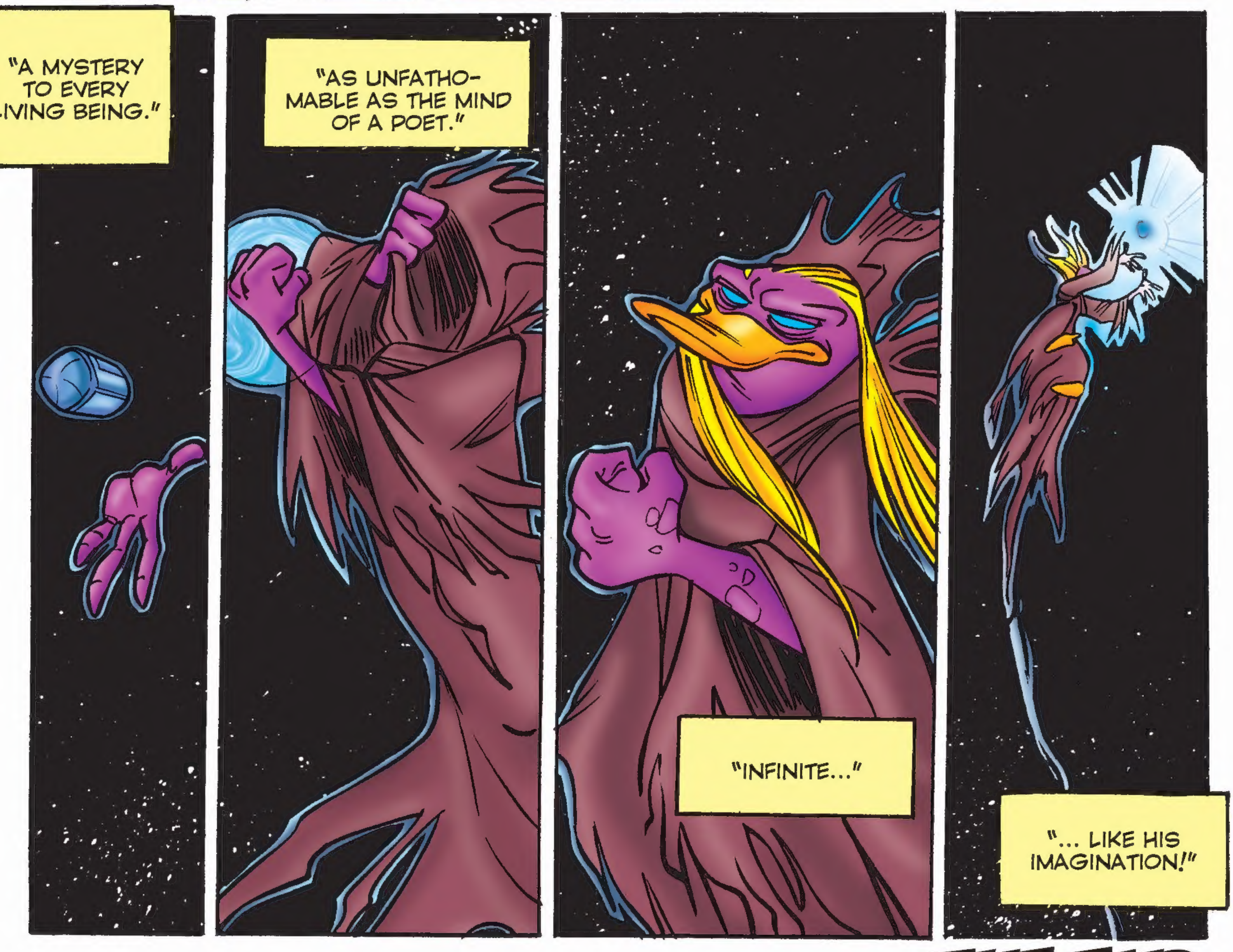
CLUNK

CAPSULE READY FOR LAUNCHING, SIR!

GOOD! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE EXPULSION! LEAVE ME ALONE!


SHAAAAAFT


"THE UNIVERSE."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"... LIKE HIS IMAGINATION!"

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